M932N HF1-35 (purged RDD)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

4298 Elysian Fields Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122
Telephone (504) 589-7166
Fax (504) 589-4657

May 22, 1997

WARNING LETTER NO. 97-NOL-48

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Jimmy D. Prudhomme
President/Owner
Crawfish Enterprises, Inc.
146 Highway 758
Eunice, LA 70535

Dear Mr. Prudhomme:

During an inspection of your crawfish processing facility, Crawfish Enterprises, Inc., Eunice, LA on 5/5-6/97, our investigator documented numerous objectionable insanitary practices in your processing operations. This causes your product, peeled crawfish tail meat, to be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Objectionable conditions noted included: (1) an employee biting and spitting crawfish claws back onto the peeling table and eating peeled crawfish tails during peeling operations; (2) one peeler picked up two crawfish from the floor then peeled the tails; (3) peelers at start-up of operations peeling crawfish without washing and sanitizing their hands; (4) colanders were not sanitized before being used to hold peeled tail meat; (5) employees handling insanitary objects including stools, radio headphones, and a cap and continuing peeling crawfish; (6) residues from previous operations on product contact equipment; (7) new cooked crawfish placed on top of cooked crawfish on the peeling tables; (8) numerous live flies outside and 57 live flies inside the peeling room during operations, with one live fly on a peeling table; (9) cook employees handling live crawfish, sacks, and valves and then contacting the hoist control, which then routinely came into direct contact with the cooked crawfish; and (10) numerous other improper employee practices.

The above identification of violations is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies at your facility. It is your responsibility to assure adherence with each requirement of the Good Manufacturing Practice Regulations.

You should take prompt action to correct these deviations. Failure to promptly correct these deviations may result in regulatory action without further notice. This may include seizure and/or injunction.

You should notify this office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter of the steps you have taken to correct the noted violations, including an explanation of each step being taken to prevent the recurrence of similar violations. If corrective action can not be completed within 15 working days, state the reason for this delay, and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Your response should be directed to Richard D. Debo, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122, telephone number (504) 589-7166. Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this letter, or if you desire a meeting with the agency staff, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Debo.

Sincerely,

James E. Gamet
District Director
New Orleans District

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